G R S 59]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

1910-11
(Conection)

File No. 340-10

Serial Nos. 1-3

Papers Filed.

Month April 1912

SUBJECT

Orders in regard to the non compliance with
an order of Court's request for exemption of his
grandson from attending the Bible classes
in the Wesleyan mission school Bangalore.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES

LATER REFERENCES

Con 107 13(1)(c)
Exc 475-13(2)

16/5/12

GRS 11] 1900-11

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

Education)

NOTES

File No 340-10

FILE HEADING

Exemption from attending bible classes in the aided Mission Schools.

From Mr. Annaya Rao, Bangalore

No Retn Dated 29/3/11 Received 30/3/11

Diary No 6190 | Enclos | Spare Copies | Serial No 1

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER

States that his request for exempting his grandson from attending the Bible class in the Wesleyan Mission High School, Bangalore, was not complied with, and requests suitable orders in the matter.

NOTES AND ORDERS

The correspondence on the subject between Mr. Annaya Rao and the Dpt of Edn. ~~in the Subject~~ is enclosed. Mr. Wen states that the boy's father (& not the grand father

NOTES—First sheet

GPB—15 000—24 4 09

6190

12
Land Revenue Secretariat

File No 340 of 1910-11

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Mr. Annaya Rao) should have raised the question

2 Submitted with Govt file No 356-05 (Vol 107) Please see ~~page 11~~ Mr. Weir's letter No 4156 R 8/12/06 in which this question has been raised.

hm/ong 33 4/4/11

3 The communication from Mr. Annaya Rao raises the question of the introduction of a 'Conscience Clause' with reference to aided schools which was discussed at considerable length at the time of the publication of the Educational Rules but were as Offg. Director of Public Instruction considered that no necessity had been made out for the interference of Govt in this respect as no cases had come to notice in which Missionaries had refused to permit students to stay away from the Bible Classes, ~~at~~ at the request of their parents or guardians. The present case is one in which such a contingency has ~~appear~~ happened. The reply of Mr. Weir, that the pupil's father is the proper authority to use

NOTE—Continue sheet

CPB—50 000—12-8-1.

Serial No

any representation in this request and that in the absence of any such representation he did not propose to take any action ~~on~~ on the request of the boy's grandfather, does not seem to be quite defensible It is said that because the boy has applied from his father's place for a 'leaving certificate', it must be taken to mean that the father of the boy is content to acquiesce in the decision of the Mission School Principal It might just as well be the case that the father of the boy knowing that his grandfather's representation was of no avail, had no other course to take and has arranged to put him the boy to some other school. However, the Inspr General might have made further inquiries on this point & made matters clear

4 So far as the particular case now before placed before Govt by Mr Annaji Rao is concerned there is no ~~way~~ authority to question the decision of the Principal of the Mission School The ~~point~~ matter for consideration is whether the Govt should take up the question of introduction of the 'Conscience Clause' in aided schools, on the ~~ground~~ instance brought to notice by Mr Annaji Rao

5 The Inspr General may be requested (to report on the present case and) to favour Govt with his views, his attention being invited to the remarks contained

Note – Co tn sh et

[R S 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat

Edn File No 846 of 1910

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in his letter of 8/12/06
6 Secretary)

Sr
13/4/11

7 A concrete case having occurred in which the manager of an aided school have chosen rather to let a boy leave the school than permit him to stay away from the Scripture classes, it is I think time that govt should move in the matter and introduce what has been called the conscience clause 8 Before passing orders the D of Edn maybe asked to address the managers of different aided schools in the state giving them the facts of the present case asking them whether in similar circs they would allow the boys to drop the Bible classes or must on them leaving the school If the missionary bodies elect to adopt the former course ~~so framed~~ ~~order of Govt~~ the action to be taken would be simplified

2nd C)

CSB
23/4/11

NOTE—Contn sheet

GPB—50 00 —12 8 10

G R S 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat

1905

Ed 2 File No 340 of 1910-11

Serial No

8 There is no doubt that we shall be raising a hornet's nest by taking steps to enforce a Conscience clause" I wish to know of any of the rules of Bd India make any provision for ~~this~~ such cases Can the info^n be given this office?

28/4/11

9 Please See ~~Rule~~ Rule 20 of the Grant in aid Code, Madras, for 1905-06 This Rule however seems to have been omitted in the edition corrected upto 15/8/1907

Flag R page 6

The rules related only to European schools for Europeans

There seems to be separate code for European schools + the rule will find a place there

Ed 2 Ex 26/5/11 25/5/11

Yes Please see in the Rule 6 in the Vol put up KM 5/5/11

† Flag

10 So far as I have been able to ascertain informally, the provisions of a Conscience Clause are not in force anywhere [Please see also the return presented at the Rep Assembly of 1905 by Mr C Sreenivasa Iyengar

† Flag IV

~~Flag~~

The Travancore govt have an old

Note—Cont slect

GLB 1000017—3 07

Serial No

requiring all aided schools to devote all the five working hours in a day to secular teaching only

Secy) hz 12/5/11

11 Please see marginal remark & see if there is not a separate code for European schools Also get a copy pl.

CSD 26/5/11 hz

12 A copy of the Separate Code for European Schools is Dated

MW 29/5/11 Secy) hz 5/6/11

Reference is invited to Rule 6 of the European Schools Code. If European boys — who are ordinarily taught by religious — are at liberty to abstain from religious classes it is difficult to see why Hindu boys should be compelled to attend a bible class or leave the school.

2nd Secy) CSD 16/6/11

7 Please submit to Dewan Sahib that he agrees the Hd's observa-

NOTE— Co tn sh t

G R S 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat

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may be called for

23/6/11

Dewan

12235

27 6 11

2' "

9 The Hy Director's remarks & suggestions may be accepted unofficially

27/6

No 151

9 30-6-11

10 Forwarded unofficially to the Inspector-General of Education for favour of opinion and remarks and suggestions

30 6 11

for Hy Secy

No 2 of 17 7 11

11 I saw Mr Annaji Rao at the time he made the complaint and formed the opinion that he was really more eager to stir up strife than to secure correct religious instruction for his grandson

12 I still think that the correct answer to give him is that it is not his business but the business of the boys father to complain It is a much more difficult and complicated question than he imagines

13 If however it is decided to go into the matter now

NOTE—Contn sheet

CPB—50 000—12 8 10

Serial No

it would be well to decide how far Govt is prepared to go before taking any action The following questions suggest themselves –

1) If a conscience clause of any kind is introduced is it to apply to Govt schools as well as aided schools eg if a Hindu parent objects to the particular form of sectarian Hindu religious teaching in a Govt school is his boy to be exempted from attendence?

2) Mr Annaji Rao says that the missionaries make attendance at Bible lessons a condition of admission Supposing this to be correct, the question arises are the managers of an aided institution to be allowed to make ~~compulsory~~ attendence at the religious instruction given in the school a condition of admittance?

In the Code for Madras European schools ~~Bible~~ this is forbidden but in Mr Gokhales elementary education bill there is a clause which is supposed to mean that there may be schools where such a condition is imposed

3) Suppose the missionaries object to such a clause and withdraw from the field of education are govt prepared to find the money which is at present supplied by the missionaries

4) Suppose the missionaries object to such a clause and sacrifice the grants in aid rather than submit and continue to make attendance at bible lessons a condition of admittance are govt prepared to refuse recognition of these schools for examination purposes

When govt has made up its mind on these points

NOTE—Contn sheet

CPB—50 000—12 8 10

Serial No

if any further action is considered desirable in the matter it would be advisable to issue a circular to the managers of aided schools stating that the question is under consideration and asking for their opinion This would give an opportunity of dropping the ~~matter~~ question if this is thought desirable

17 7 1911

Inspector General of Edn

Secy)

15 There is no doubt much force in the observations made by the I G of Edn & in one view Govt need not interfere in the matter, but might leave it to fathers of boys & managers of schools to settle whether religious teaching should be optional or compulsory

16 Govt ~~are~~ are chiefly interested in secular education & according to the policy recently adopted ~~have~~ are also in favour of religious & moral instruction being given to the boys The best arrangement would be for such religious instruction being provided according to the tenets of ~~the~~ each religion & this is what is meant to be done in Govt schools, so far as Hinduism, Mahomedanism & Jainism are concerned. But the

Serial No

policy of mission schools is not equally so liberal, and they are evidently only desirous of providing instruction in the Xian religion, whether or not such teaching is welcomed by the boys & the parents of the boys It is a perfectly natural & logical attitud for them to take up and say that boys who object to the religious teaching are at liberty to go elsewhere for secular education also In a place like Bangalore where there are many schools, including Govt schools, such an attitude need not cause much inconvenience as the boys can go to the Govt school In places where there is only a mission school there maybe inconvenience but in such a case if there is sufficient public spirit among the dissenters they may start a school of their own & Govt would be quite ready to help such a school as soon as it is placed on a stable footing In some cases it may be necessary to start a Govt school & even this might

CPB—50 000—12 8 10

Serial No

be done

17 If a large number of Hindu parents withdraw their boys from Mission schools on the ground of the religious teaching it may happen that the Mission bodies might reconsider their position & make attendance at the religious classes optional - If such a state of things comes to pass, the formal passing of a Conscience clause would be easy

18 The mere fact that an institution receives a grant-in-aid need not render it necessary that it should not be denominational, so long as the secular teaching efficient - The grant will be liable to be reduced or withdrawn if the number of boys in the school ~~is small~~ grows small

19 Mr Annaji Row may therefore be told that Govt - as at present advised do not see ~~the~~ thyu way to ~~insist~~ introduce a conscience clause in schools where religious teaching is given as a compulsory item.

2nd C + Dewan)

CSB 21/7/11

20 Please ask the Dy Secy - Offg - orally whether this question has been

Has this ever been raised in Br India? 23/7

NOTE - Cont sheet

6190

(R S 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat | Edn File No 340 of 1910-11

Serial No	
	raised anywhere in British India and how it has been dealt with
	Hm 24/7/11
4	Draft Sd Hm 26/7/11 22 Issue Hm 28/7/11
2	To the Govt of Edn D O No 942 dt 29/7/11 Enquires whether the question of introducing a Conscience Clause has been raised anywhere in British India and if so, how it has been dealt with.
3	From Do - No 3058/204 dt 10/10/11 States that there is no information in the office regarding the a Conscience clause in British India & forwards copies of letters from

Note—Cont sheet

G R S 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat

Title No 840 of 1910-11

Serial No

The Director of Public Instruction in Madras & Bombay on the Subject

23 Submitted for orders

HW
BB 24 Secy
17/10/11

HW
17/10/11

25 2nd Cr

CBB
20/10/11

26 I think it unnecessary to take any action on this representation But if Govt wish, I shall write to the heads of the Missions engaged in Edn & ascertain what they have to say

HW
25/10/11

Dewan

14070 27/10/11 I think that the matter may be dropped - If an enquiry by Mr Annaji Rao is absolutely necessary, he may be told that the Govt decline to interfere -

2 JKnox

Note—Continued sheet

CPI—5000 6.6.11

1952

G R S 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat

File No 560 of 19 1[illegible]

Serial No

[illegible] I do not know whether I am morally good or bad – but I began my school education in a school which answered Mr Wilberforce's ideal, viz a free school where no fees were demanded & where all the books of study were supplied free of charge from the school library which was stocked with the necessary number of this year book – The Bible was one of them and I had to attend Bible classes – It was a state school – I am sure no harm has occurred to me or mine

[illegible]

1952
2741

28 No reply to Mr Amrayi Rao appears necessary This may be filed

[illegible] 33
30 4 1912

[illegible] File
30 4 12

NOTE—Contn he t

GPB—50 00 12 8 10

To

Received per the Postal letter 1/3/29/3/41/K.

The Secretary to the
Government of Mysore
Bangalore

P. 6140

Edn 340-00

Sir, I (1) my grandson one Moro Panth, was reading in the Wesleyan Mission High school Bangalore City last year - Coming to understand that the boy was compelled to attend scripture classes I ~~wrote~~ and requested the Principal to exempt him from Bible classes - The principal very kindly advised me to send the boy to any other school where there is no Bible lesson I withdrew the boy & sent him

to his fathers place Chittledrug
The W^m High School draws
a large sum of money as
grant in aid & as such it
is a state-aided institution
I therefore placed the matter
before the Inspector General
of Education in Mysore but
the Gentleman was not
pleased to take any steps
to solve the general question
of Exemption from Bible class
by Hindu boys though the
Mysore Government has ruled
that Moral & religious Edu=
cation should be given to
the boys attending a school
according to their faith

I beg therefore to request that you will kindly place this matter before Government in the interests of the poor Hindu parents similarly situated like myself for such action as they may consider necessary in the matter.

I enclose copies of correspondence passed between the Principal, Inspector General & myself for ready reference.

I remain Sir
Your Obedient Servant
M Annayya

29 March 1911
Bangalore

From Revd A R Fuller, B A
Principal Wesleyan Mission High school
Bangalore

To Mr M Annaya Rão Retd Asst Comm Bangalore -

Sir Your note to hand re Moro Panth & the scripture class I am afraid that I cannot exempt a boy from any class unless very special reasons are adduced for such exemption as it would be quite subversive of the ordenary discypline of the school I am rea
(signed) A R Fuller

- Reply sent to say - that parents all over the world wish to bring up their children in their own fouth. Hindus are no Exception to it Mission schools have no Hindu scripture classes - Hence Exemption is necessary -

From The Principal Wesleyan High School
Bangalore City Sept 2nd 1910

To Mr M Annaya Rao

Sir Your letter to hand Our curriculum has been arranged to meet what we consider the best interests of the boys attending the school I am afraid that I cannot see my way to interfere with the school discipline by exempting boys from particular classes If the school curriculum does not meet what you consider the needs of your boy it may be that you will be able to find what you desire in some other school in the city If that be the case I shall be pleased to give your boy a leaving certificate to enable him to join any other school you may wish I am yrs

(signed) A R Fuller

From The Principal Wesleyan High School
Bangalore City / Septr 2nd 1910

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I am yrs
(signed) A R Fuller

(3) Office of the
Inspector General of Education in Mysore
Bangalore 27 December
1910

Sir, With reference to your letter dated
25 Oct 1910 regarding your grandson
I have the honor to inform you that
on enquiry I find that the boys father
is still alive & is an educated man,
& that the boy has not attended the
school since Dasara but has written
from Chittledroog where his father is
now to the teacher of his class asking
for a leaving certificate I take
this to mean that the boys father
is content to acquiesce And as
a boy's father is the proper au=
thority to decide such a matter
I do not propose to take any
further action at present.

Yours faithfully
(signed) J Weir
Inspector General

To M Annapleo Esq
Retd Asst Commr
Bangalore

Hrs 15-11

GRS 261 627 917

File No 340 /10

Serial No 2

Diary No of letter replied to

No 942 825/7/11
23 340-10-

General and Revenue Secretariat

Eqn)

the 19

Date of issue 29 / 11

Issued by : Asst B Narayanaswamy

My dear Sir,

I am to refer to your unofficial opinion in Govt file No 340-11 Regarding the complaint of Mr Bhimaji Rao against the Principal of the W-M High School Bangalore, ~~Requesting for~~ in having Refused permission to his grand son to stay away from the Bible lesson.

I am desired to inquire

over

SUBJECT

whether the question of introducing a
Conscience Clause to
has been raised anywhere
in British India and
if so how it has been
dealt with

I have the

By

Your Obt

Servt

[illegible]

List of enclosures,

Copied by

Examined by

14/29/7

61 B—20 000—25 9 10

Fdn 81]

9

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OF EDUCATION IN MYSORE

No 3058 / 204 Enc 2 Bangalore 10th October 1911

Ref No 1963

10/10/11
Edn.
FILE No 340
No 3

From

~~H. J. BHABHA, Esq M A~~

The *Inspector General of Education in Mysore*

To

C S Balasundaram Iyer, Esq , B A ,
Offg Secretary to the Government of H H the Maharaja
of Mysore, General and Revenue Departments, Bangalore

SIR

With reference to your letter No 942/Edn 340-10 dated 29th July 1911, I have the honour to state that there is no information in this office regarding a conscience clause in British India There was a clause in the Educational Rules of Burmah some time back, but the rule is omitted in later editions The Directors of Public Instruction in Madras and Bombay were addressed on the question and copies of their replies are submitted herewith for information

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S Krishnaswamy Aiyangar
For Inspector General

GIB—1500-9-G-J

TNR

10

THE OLD COLLEGE,

Dated 19th September 1911

From,

The Hon'ble Mr J H Stone, M A , F R H S ,

Acting Director of Public Instruction,

Madras

To,

The Inspector General of Education in Mysore,

Bangalore

Sir,

With reference to your letter No 1361-2/229 dated 12th August 1911, I have the honour to inform you that the policy of this department is to abstain from interfering with religious instruction given in aided schools provided that such instruction is not given during the time devoted to secular teaching and that the amount of time for secular teaching prescribed by the Grant-in-aid Code is not reduced The instruction in schools under public management must be exclusively secular Bible is taught in mission schools in this Presidency but no objections have been raised so far regarding this

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd) R G Grieve,

For Director of Public Instruction

"COPY"

For Inspector General

TNR

No 5281 of 1911-12

Office of the
Director of Public Instruction
Poona, 30th August 1911

From,

The Hon'ble Mr W H Sharp, M A,
Director of Public Instruction, Poona

To,

The Inspector General of Education in Mysore,
Bangalore

Sir,

In reply to your No 1361-2/230 dated the 12th August 1911, I have the honour to state that Managers of aided and recognised schools are allowed to teach in their schools the Bible or any other religious book they please, and if a parent or guardian has any objection to such instruction he is at liberty to remove his child from the school

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd) P Wren,

For Director of Public Instruction

COPY "

V Krishnamurthy
For Inspector General

TNR